



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

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Students win honors in statewide radon poster contest

Winning posters by Littleton, Boulder, Windsor students warn of radon dangers

DENVER – Students from Littleton, Boulder and Windsor took top honors in this year’s statewide radon poster contest to raise awareness of health risks associated with radon gas. More than 300 students across Colorado participated in the contest. The top three Colorado posters will be entered in a national contest sponsored by National Radon Program Services in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

First place was awarded to Isabella Barbieri of Littleton. Her poster, “Silent Killer,” featured an artfully drawn grim reaper with a “what’s in your home” message. Isabella is a student of Pilar Heslin at St. Thomas Moore Catholic School in Centennial.

“The state health department joins Isabella in urging Coloradans to test their homes for radon,” said Chrystine Kelley, radon program manager for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. “It’s easy to do, and it’s the only sure way to tell whether or not your home is affected by radon, which occurs naturally in the soil.”

Yu Jin Choi from Boulder received second place and Hannah White from Windsor received third place.

Long-term exposure to radon – a colorless, odorless, tasteless radioactive gas – is the most frequent cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in smokers. Exposure to radon is responsible for approximately 21,000 lung cancer deaths in the United States each year.

Discount coupons for radon test kits are available at www.coloradoradon.info. The web site also includes a link to a public information video, a list of certified contractors and other

resources. People without web access can call the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's radon hotline at 1-800-846-3986. Colorado residents also can check with their local health department, county extension office or public health nurses for radon information.

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Note: Winning posters attached.